

CONGRESSWOMAN NORMA TORRES

REPRESENTING CALIFORNIA'S 35TH DISTRICT

MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2023
FONTANA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
8353 SIERRA AVE
FONTANA, CA 92335

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROJECTS WORKSHOP



Housing



Transportation



Law Enforcement



Jobs and Training

Non-profits and government agencies may join Congresswoman Norma Torres to voice where federal funding should be prioritized in our communities and learn how to apply

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Funding Projects Workshop

Committees and Caucuses:

Committee on Appropriations

- Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
- Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
- Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

Committee on House Administration

- Ranking Member: Subcommittee on Oversight
- Subcommittee on Elections

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What is Community Project Funding?

Formerly known as an “earmark”, it’s a provision inserted into a discretionary spending appropriations bill that directs funds to a specific recipient.

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What falls under Community Project Funding in FY24?

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1. **Transportation, Housing and Urban Development**
2. ~~Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies~~
3. **Commerce, Justice, Science**
4. ~~Defense~~
5. **Homeland Security**
6. **Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies**
7. ~~Financial Services and General Government~~
8. **Energy and Water**
9. **Military Construction, Veterans Affairs**
10. **Agriculture**

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Guidelines for Community Project Funding? Part I

- ▶ Limit of 15 project selections for FY2024 – Each member may submit 15 community project funding requests this year;
- ▶ Only state, regional, and local governments as well as a narrow number of non-profit entities are eligible to apply;
- ▶ Money must be obligated within 12 months and specific documentation for how money will be spent is required;
- ▶ Members/Applicants must provide evidence of community support for the projects.

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Guidelines for Community Project Funding Part 2 – *Difference between this year and last year?*

- ▶ No CPF applications for accounts at the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, or Education --- but the Senate will keep those accounts open;
- ▶ Total funding is capped at 0.5% of discretionary funding vs. the 0.9% from FY23;
- ▶ Requirement for a federal nexus – the Committee will only fund projects that are directly tied to a federal authorization law;
- ▶ No Memorials, Commemorations, Museums, health-care facilities, or entertainment facilities;
- ▶ Majority is expected to play a greater role in scrutinizing projects and reserve the right to prioritize selections based on the Chair's priorities;
- ▶ Limited guidance on award funding caps;
- ▶ Focus on brick-and-mortar: example: programmatic or operational expenses under "Economic Development Initiatives" Account.

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Restrictions on CPF Applications

- ▶ For-profit organizations are not eligible
- ▶ CPF Funding is not fungible and must go towards the application's expense
- ▶ CPF funding cannot go towards reimbursement of costs already incurred
- ▶ Independent audit sample of federal CPFs annually

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Best Practices for CPF Submissions part 1

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- ▶ **Demonstrates Impact, Readiness**
 - ▶ Successful projects generally have community-wide impact, serve a high-need population, or address long-recognized local priority
 - ▶ Application succinctly tells the story of why the project is needed, put the project in context by explaining your organization's mission
 - ▶ Application demonstrates how project fits in with long-term planning (e.g. strategic plan, intergovernmental agreement, etc.)
 - ▶ Best applications are for well-established projects, "last piece of the puzzle" funding needs, close to "shovel ready"
- ▶ **Satisfies eligibility requirements**
 - ▶ Applicant must be an eligible entity
 - ▶ Project must fulfill account-specific eligibility requirements
 - ▶ EXAMPLE 1: DHS Pre-disaster mitigation grants – must be gov't entity, requires local match, requires from CA Agency (CalEPA or CalOES letter of support)
 - ▶ EXAMPLE 2: DOT Local Transportation Priority – must be gov't entity, inclusion in STIP/TIP

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Best Practices for CPF Submissions part 2

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► Community Support

- Demonstrate support among relevant stakeholders such as impacted organizations, history of project, project listed in state/local planning documents
- Be prepared to solicit letters of support, provide press articles highlighting the need for the project
- Examples from FY23

► Local Match (if applicable)

- If the account requires local match, you must be able to demonstrate your ability to meet that match
- Does not require funding to already be set-aside
- Wary of projects that require renewal of funding, projects should be “one-year funding”

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Review All Accounts

Determine which makes sense for your submissions

- ▶ Economic Development? → HUD
- ▶ Research? → CJS
- ▶ Law Enforcement? → DOJ or DHS
- ▶ Conservation? → Interior or USDA
- ▶ Highways, Transit, Infrastructure? → DOT
- ▶ Flooding? → EPA or DHS or USACE

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How to apply for Community Project Funding?

To acquire the form:

Please go here for Community Project Fund requests:

- <https://torres.house.gov/contact/appropriations-requests>

Please fill out the entire form. If you have previously communicated with our office about a submissions request via an email, call, or meeting, we ask that you still fill out the form. ***You will need to fill out the Google form in one sitting, as your information will not save.***

To submit the form: Please simply fill out the questions in each section and hit submit at the end.

For multiple requests: If you have multiple requests, please submit a form separately for each request.

Deadline: The deadline for submission is March 20th. For Agriculture and Interior account requests, the deadline is March 17.

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Thank you!

For more information & to sign up for the our
monthly newsletter, visit: torres.house.gov

